SALEM COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS 2007 REORGANIZATION MEETING MINUTES WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3, 2007 Salem Community College, Davidow Hall

At 5:00 PM, opening music was performed by the Salem Oak Singers prior to the beginning of the Reorganization Meeting.

Beginning at 5:45 PM, the Oaths of Office were given to the following:

Salem County Sheriff: Charles M. Miller, III by Bruce Sherman, Esq. Freeholder Elect: Beth E. Timberman by Commissioner Susan Bass Lavin

Freeholder Elect: Jeffery J. Hogan by Benjamin Telsey, Esq.

Freeholder Beth Timberman thanked her supporters, family and residents of Salem County for giving her the honor of serving on the Board of Chosen Freeholders for a second term. She then introduced Commissioner Susan Bass Levin, Director of the Department of Community Affairs. Commissioner Levin brought greetings from Governor Corzine, and explained the importance of Smart Growth for Salem County. She also presented a representative check in the amount of \$400,000 for a grant for the restoration of the Olde Salem court House.

Earl R. Gage, Clerk of the Board/Administrator, presiding Protem, called the Reorganization Meeting to order and asked Father Joseph Ganiel, former priest of St. Mary's R C Church to deliver the invocation.

The Daretown Boy Scout Troop 60 presented the American Flag in a Color Guard procession and led the assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The President Protem read the roll call and introduced the Freeholder members for the year 2007: Lee Ware, Bruce Bobbitt, Susan Bestwick, David Lindenmuth, Charles Sullivan, Beth Timberman, and Jeffrey Hogan.

On roll call the following Freeholders were present: Ware, Bobbitt, Bestwick, Lindenmuth, Sullivan, Timberman, and Hogan.

The Clerk of the Board read the following Opening Meetings Act statement:

Adequate notice pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act has been given of this meeting

- 1. by forwarding notice thereof to Today's Sunbeam and Elmer Times Co.
- 2. by posting notice thereof on the bulletin board in the Salem County Court House and County Administration Building.
- 3. by filing notice there in the Office of the Salem County Clerk and the Clerk of the Board all having been done at least 48 hours in advance.

The President Protem presented the Election Certificates for Sheriff Charles M. Miller, and Freeholders Beth E. Timberman and Jeffery J. Hogan.

The President Protem took nominations from the floor for Freeholder Director. Freeholder Bobbitt nominated Freeholder Ware with Freeholder Sullivan voicing the second. No other names were nominated. Nominations were closed. On roll call, Jeffrey J. Hogan, Charles R. Sullivan, Susan A. Bestwick, David T. Lindenmuth, Beth E. Timberman, Bruce Bobbitt and Lee R. Ware unanimously approved the election of Lee R. Ware as Director.

Benjamin Telsey, Esq. administered the Oath of Office to Freeholder Lee R. Ware as Director of the Board of Chosen Freeholders of Salem County. As the Director's first official duty, he thanked the Board for re-electing him as Director for the year 2007.

The President Protem took nominations from the floor for Freeholder Deputy Director. Freeholder Timberman nominated Freeholder Bobbitt with Freeholder Lindenmuth voicing the second. No other names were nominated. Nominations were closed. On roll call, Jeffrey J. Hogan, Charles R. Sullivan, Susan A. Bestwick, David T. Lindenmuth, Beth E. Timberman, Bruce Bobbitt and Lee R. Ware unanimously approved the election of Bruce L. Bobbitt as Deputy Director.

The following statement was read by Director Ware:

Good evening! I want to thank each of you for attending our annual Reorganization Meeting. I am humbled and honored to be chosen by my fellow Freeholders to serve another year as Freeholder Director. As Freeholder Director I am committed to ensuring fairness, respect, and integrity in the Freeholder Board.

As a long time coach, no one appreciates hard work and working together as a team more than I do. I want to thank my fellow freeholders for doing what is best for all of the people of Salem County; People should always come before politics. As I look back on this past year on the Freeholder Board I am proud of the accomplishments that we have achieved. We have worked together to improve the quality of life in Salem County and reached beyond our limitations to achieve great things ushering in a new era of progress and prosperity for Salem County. We have accomplished much, but there is more work that needs to be done and together, as a team, we will strive to lead by serving knowing that "to whom much is given, much is expected."

Isaac Newton once remarked that "if I have seen farther than others, it is because I was standing on the shoulders of giants" and I can truly relate to his sentiments as I am daily standing on the shoulders of giants. I am truly honored to work with this group of Freeholders as they have pledged their commitment to improving Salem County and continue to make good on their pledge. I want to encourage each of them to continue to make service their goal and to set aside all differences so that we can pursue our common aims. Congratulations to Freeholder Beth Timberman on her reelection and welcome to newly elected Freeholder Jeff Hogan.

We are all truly blessed to have each of you present this evening, sharing in this Salem County tradition. On behalf of the Freeholders, we want to extend our gratitude to our family and friends that continually stand by us.

Additionally, I want to thank my family: my mom, Patti, and my three children, as well as acknowledge the memory of my brother Clint and father Preston who have provided me with strong roots and a support structure that I rely upon as I carry on the Ware Family Tradition of serving the people of Salem County for thirty-two consecutive years.

I also want to extend a warm welcome and appreciation to our three good friends, Third District Legislators: Senator Sweeney, Assemblyman Burzichelli, and Assemblyman Fisher. These guys are an incredible team in Trenton and are always working to ensure that Salem County gets its fair share. I also want to recognize Commissioner Susan Bass-Levin and thank her for taking the time to come and administer the oath of office. We are all honored by your presence and appreciate your commitment to the State of New Jersey. Additionally, I want to thank Ben Telsey and Senator Sweeney for also administering the oath of office this evening. And we are truly blessed to have Father Joseph Ganiel offer the invocation and our good friend Reverend Dr. Edward Dorn offering the benediction.

As I mentioned earlier, we are continually standing on the shoulders of giants that have gone on before us and paved the way for the success that we enjoy today. 2006 was a very good year for Salem County, but it also was a sad year, as we lost four former freeholders and outstanding public servants, but most importantly good people in Charlie Finlaw, Walter Kern, Joe Dwyer, Charlie Ahl and also my high school

classmate and a dear friend of Salem County who touched so many, our Town Crier, Ron Lehew. Please keep them and their families in your thoughts and prayers.

I would like to acknowledge our former freeholders who are in attendance tonight:

- 1. The gentleman and statesman who has given us his outstanding freeholder daughter Beth Ben Timberman
- 2. My former high school classmate and good friend of fifty years Jack Kugler.
- 3. A born leader and statesman, former freeholder director and state assemblyman who has always been in my corner Tom Pankok
- 4. Served on the large board with my dad Leo Fredericks

These people have put their sweat and blood into Salem County and their service is not forgotten and is always appreciated.

I also want acknowledge our County Surrogate Nicki Burke, Prosecutor John Lenahan, and County Clerk Gilda Gill who serve our County with distinction. Welcome to our newly elected Sheriff Chuck Miller—we all look forward to working with you in continuing our legacy of excellence in public safety.

Salem County's law enforcement is second to none in the State of New Jersey and it is because of their commitment to excellence and service to our residents. But every good team, needs a good coach. On behalf of a grateful county, I extend our appreciation to John Cooksey who has served the County with distinction and integrity as our Sheriff. In addition to the Sheriff's Office, our Prosecutor's Office has been continually at work making the people of Salem County safer and that is thanks to my good friend and confidant, Jiggs Lenahan. Under his leadership this important office has taken on increased responsibility and delivered results.

We are grateful to Salem County Community College and their president, my friend and former classmate, Dr. Pete Contini for allowing us to use their facilities this evening and for their continuing dedication to the advancement of our County.

I also want to thank Harvest Bank for sponsoring the beautiful flowers and to the Salem County Oak Singers for lending their talents for this evening's festivities. Additionally, I want to thank the Boy Scout Troop #60.

I also want to express our gratitude to our Clerk of the Board & Administrator Earl Gage and his outstanding staff for putting this festive evening together.

Salem County is moving forward. As you can see, I have this boot on my foot which tries to slow me down, but it is not working. The same goes for Salem County—nothing is going to slow us down in bringing this County onto higher ground. And, as Freeholders, we must always remember the words of Robert Greenleaf, "Good Leaders Must First Become Good Servants." Thank you all for coming...now, let's get to work.

The following proposed Freeholder resolutions were read by the Clerk of the Board:

R. 2007-01

ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION SETTING JOB CLASSIFICATION TITLES AND SALARY RANGES FOR 2007

Freeholder Bobbitt moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Sullivan seconding his motion. On roll call, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a vote of 7/0.

R. 2007-02

ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION FOR THE ADOPTION OF THE RULES TO GOVERN THE SALEM COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS FOR THE YEAR 2007

Freeholder Bobbitt moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Sullivan seconding his motion. On roll call, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a vote of 7/0.

R. 2007-03

ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION FOR COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETING LAW FOR THE COUNTY OF SALEM

Freeholder Bobbitt moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Sullivan seconding his motion. On roll call, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a vote of 7/0.

R. 2007-04

AMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF FREEHOLDER REPRESENTATIVES TO THE NEW JERSEY ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES

Freeholder Bobbitt moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Sullivan seconding his motion. On roll call, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a vote of 7/0.

R. 2007-05

ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION RE-APPOINTING COUNTY ADJUSTER FOR THE COUNTY OF SALEM

Freeholder Bobbitt moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Sullivan seconding his motion. On roll call, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a vote of 7/0.

R. 2007-06

ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION CREATING THE POSITION OF DEPUTY COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Freeholder Bobbitt moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Sullivan seconding his motion. On roll call, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a vote of 7/0.

R. 2007-07

ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION APPOINTING A DEPUTY COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR FOR THE COUNTY OF SALEM

Freeholder Bobbitt moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Sullivan seconding his motion. On roll call, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a vote of 7/0.

R. 2007-08

ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION RE-APPOINTING THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Freeholder Bobbitt moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Sullivan seconding his motion. On roll call, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a vote of 6/1. Freeholder Bestwick voted against.

R. 2007-09

ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION RE-APPOINTING THE SALEM COUNTY DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

Freeholder Bobbitt moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Sullivan seconding his motion. On roll call, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a vote of 7/0.

R. 2007-10

ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION APPOINTING A DEPUTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR

Freeholder Bobbitt moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Sullivan seconding his motion. On roll call, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a vote of 7/0.

R. 2007-11

ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION APPOINTING AN EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES COORDINATOR

Freeholder Bobbitt moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Sullivan seconding his motion. On roll call, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a vote of 7/0.

R. 2007-12

ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION APPOINTING THE SALEM COUNTY 911 COORDINATOR

Freeholder Bobbitt moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Sullivan seconding his motion. On roll call, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a vote of 7/0.

R. 2007-13

ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION RE-APPOINTING THE FIRE MARSHAL FOR THE COUNTY OF SALEM

Freeholder Bobbitt moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Sullivan seconding his motion. On roll call, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a vote of 7/0.

R. 2007-14

ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION RE-APPOINTING THE DIRECTOR, SALEM COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Freeholder Bobbitt moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Sullivan seconding his motion. On roll call, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a vote of 7/0.

R. 2007-15

ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE SALEM COUNTY HUMAN RELATIONS ADVISORY BOARD

Freeholder Bobbitt moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Sullivan seconding his motion. On roll call, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a vote of 7/0.

R. 2007-16

ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION RE-APPOINTING THE MENTAL HEALTH ADMINISTRATOR FOR SALEM COUNTY AND APPOINTING SAID INDIVIDUAL TO THE MENTAL HEALTH BOARD AND AS PUBLIC AGENCY COMPLIANCE OFFICER

Freeholder Bobbitt moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Sullivan seconding his motion. On roll call, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a vote of 7/0.

R. 2007-17 ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION APPOINTING A DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

Freeholder Bobbitt moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Sullivan seconding his motion. On roll call, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a vote of 7/0.

R. 2007-18 ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF A PURCHASING AGENT FOR THE COUNTY OF SALEM

Freeholder Bobbitt moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Sullivan seconding his motion. On discussion, Freeholder Bestwick noted that she hoped the new Purchasing Agent would get certified, this will allow greater flexibility in the purchasing department. On roll call, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a vote of 7/0.

R. 2007-19

ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION APPOINTING A COUNTY ROAD SUPERVISOR FOR THE COUNTY OF SALEM

Freeholder Bobbitt moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Sullivan seconding his motion. On roll call, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a vote of 7/0.

R. 2007-20

ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION RE-APPOINTING A COUNTY TREASURER/CFO

Freeholder Bobbitt moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Sullivan seconding his motion. On roll call, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a vote of 7/0.

R. 2007-21

ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION RE-APPOINTING A TRAFFIC SAFETY COORDINATOR

Freeholder Bobbitt moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Sullivan seconding his motion. On roll call, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a vote of 7/0.

R. 2007-22

ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION RE-APPOINTING THE SUPERVISOR OF VETERANS INTERMENT

Freeholder Bobbitt moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Sullivan seconding his motion. On roll call, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a vote of 7/0.

R. 2007-23

ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION RE-APPOINTING COUNTY COUNSEL AND AUTHORIZING A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT

Freeholder Bobbitt moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Sullivan seconding his motion. On roll call, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a vote of 7/0.

R. 2007-24 ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION RE-APPOINTING A LABOR AND LITIGATION COUNSEL AND AUTHORIZING A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT

Freeholder Bobbitt moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Sullivan seconding his motion. On roll call, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a vote of 7/0.

R. 2007-25

ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION RE-APPOINTING AUDITORS AND AUTHORIZING A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT

Freeholder Bobbitt moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Sullivan seconding his motion. On roll call, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a vote of 7/0.

R. 2007-26 ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION RE-APPOINTING AN ATTORNEY FOR THE OFFICE ON AGING ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES

Freeholder Bobbitt moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Sullivan seconding his motion. On roll call, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a vote of 7/0.

R. 2007-27

ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION RE-APPOINTING BOND COUNSEL AND AWARDING CONTRACT FOR SAID PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Freeholder Bobbitt moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Sullivan seconding his motion. On roll call, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a vote of 7/0.

R. 2007-28

ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION APPOINTING SPECIAL COUNSEL FOR EMPLOYMENT RELATED MATTERS AND AWARDING CONTRACT FOR SAID PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Freeholder Bobbitt moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Sullivan seconding his motion. On roll call, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a vote of 7/0.

R. 2007-29

ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION RE-APPOINTING A PHYSICIAN FOR THE SALEM COUNTY CORRECTIONAL FACILITY AND AWARDING CONTRACT FOR SAID PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Freeholder Bobbitt moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Sullivan seconding his motion. On roll call, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a vote of 7/0.

R. 2007-30

ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION RE-APPOINTING A MEDICAL DIRECTOR FOR THE SALEM COUNTY NURSING HOME AND AUTHORIZING A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT

Freeholder Bobbitt moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Sullivan seconding his motion. On roll call, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a vote of 6/0. Freeholder Timberman abstained from voting.

R. 2007-31 ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE SALEM COUNTY ADVISORY COUNCIL, OFFICE ON AGING

Freeholder Bobbitt moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Sullivan seconding his motion. On roll call, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a vote of 7/0.

R. 2007-32 ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION CREATING THE POSITION OF DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY FOR THE COUNTY OF SALEM

Freeholder Bobbitt moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Sullivan seconding his motion. On roll call, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a vote of 7/0.

R. 2007-33 ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION APPOINTING A DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY FOR THE COUNTY OF SALEM

Freeholder Bobbitt moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Sullivan seconding his motion. On roll call, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a vote of 7/0.

R. 2007-34 ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION CREATING THE POSITION OF ASSISTANT PURCHASING AGENT FOR THE COUNTY OF SALEM

Freeholder Bobbitt moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Sullivan seconding his motion. On roll call, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a vote of 7/0.

R. 2007-35 ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION APPOINTING AN ASSISTANT PURCHASING AGENT FOR THE COUNTY OF SALEM

Freeholder Bobbitt moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Sullivan seconding his motion. On roll call, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a vote of 7/0.

With the Freeholder's consent, the following resolutions were read in bulk:

R. 2007-36 ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE SALEM COUNTY ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR THE OFFICE OF THE DISABLED

R. 21007-37 ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION RE-APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE SALEM COUNTY AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

R. 2007-38

ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ALCOHOLISM & DRUG ABUSE

R. 2007-39

ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE SALEM COMMUNITY COLLEGE TRUSTEE SEARCH COMMITTEE

R. 2007-40

ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE SALEM COUNTY CONSTRUCTION BOARD OF APPEALS

R. 2007-41

ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION RE-APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE SALEM COUNTY CULTURAL & HERITAGE COMMISSION

R. 2007-42

ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION APPOINTING REPRESENTATIVES FROM SALEM COUNTY TO THE SOUTH JERSEY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

R. 2007-43

ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE SALEM COUNTY LIBRARY COMMISSION

R. 2007-44

ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION RE-APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE MEDICAL PROVIDERS OF SALEM COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD

R. 2007-45

ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION RE-APPOINTING MEDICAL INVESTIGATORS FOR THE COUNTY OF SALEM

R. 2007-46

ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION RE-APPOINTING PATHOLOGISTS FOR THE COUNTY OF SALEM

R. 2007-47

ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE SALEM COUNTY MOSQUITO EXTERMINATION COMMISSION

R. 2007-48

ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE SALEM COUNTY OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

R. 200749

ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE SALEM COUNTY PLANNING BOARD

R. 2007-50

ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION APPOINTING REPRESENTATIVES OF THE COUNTY OF SALEM TO THE SOUTH JERSEY TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION

R. 2007-51

ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE SALEM COUNTY POLLUTION CONTROL FINANCING AUTHORITY

R. 2007-52

ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE SALEM COUNTY REVOLVING LOAN FUND LOAN BOARD

R. 2007-53

ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION RE-APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE SALEM COUNTY RIGHT-OF-WAY COMMISSION

R. 2007-54

ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION RE-APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE SALEM COUNTY BOARD OF SOCIAL SERVICES

R. 2007-55

ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION RE-APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE SPECIAL SERVICES SCHOOL DISTRICT – BOARD OF EDUCATION

R. 2007-56

ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE SALEM COUNTY TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR CASINO REVENUES

R. 2007-57

ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE CUMBERLAND/SALEM WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD (WIB)

R. 2007-58

ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION FOR THE RE-APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE SALEM COUNTY VETERAN CEMETERY ADVISORY BOARD

R. 2007-59

ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE SALEM COUNTY YOUTH SERVICES COMMISSION

Freeholder Bobbitt moved for adoption of these twenty-four resolutions, with Freeholder Sullivan seconding his motion. On roll call, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolutions carried a vote of 7/0.

R. 2007-60 ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION APPOINTING FREEHOLDER MEMBERS TO VARIOUS COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS

Freeholder Bobbitt moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Sullivan seconding his motion. On roll call, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a vote of 7/0.

R. 2007-61

ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION APPOINTING A LABOR NEGOTIATIONS TEAM FOR THE COUNTY OF SALEM

Freeholder Bobbitt moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Sullivan seconding his motion. On roll call, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a vote of 7/0.

R. 2007-62 ADMINISTRATIVE

FINANCE RESOLUTION DESIGNATING A CUSTODIAN OF FUNDS
AND THE DEPOSITORIES FOR MUNICIPAL MONEYS,
AND AUTHORIZING INVESTMENT OF FUNDS AT INTEREST FOR THE COUNTY OF SALEM

Freeholder Bobbitt moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Sullivan seconding his motion. On roll call, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a vote of 7/0.

R. 2007-63

ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION APPROVING SIGNATORIES FOR REQUIRED BANK ACCOUNT

Freeholder Bobbitt moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Sullivan seconding his motion. On roll call, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a vote of 7/0.

R. 2007-64

ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION APPROVING SIGNATORIES FOR BANK ACCOUNT S

Freeholder Bobbitt moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Sullivan seconding his motion. On roll call, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a vote of 7/0.

R. 2007-65

ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION APPROVING SIGNATORIES FOR REQUIRED BANK ACCOUNTS

Freeholder Bobbitt moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Sullivan seconding his motion. On roll call, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a vote of 7/0.

R. 2007-66

ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION APPOINTING A BANKING SERVICES PROVIDER FOR THE COUNTY OF SALEM

Freeholder Bobbitt moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Sullivan seconding his motion. On roll call, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a vote of 7/0.

R. 2007-67

ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION ADOPTING A CASH MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE COUNTY OF SALEM

R. 68 ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE 2007 TEMPORARY BUDGET

Freeholder Bobbitt moved for adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Sullivan seconding his motion. On roll call, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a vote of 7/0.

PUBLIC HEARING

R. 2006-475

RESOLUTION ADOPTING REVISED SALEM COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN

Deputy Director Bobbitt moved to open the Public Hearing, with Freeholder Sullivan seconding his motion. On roll call, the motion carried a roll call vote of 7/0. As there were no comments from the public, Deputy Director Bobbitt moved to close the Public Hearing, seconded by Freeholder Lindenmuth. The motion carried a roll call vote of 7/0. Motion was then made by Deputy Director Bobbitt to adopt the Revised Salem County Solid Waste Management Plan, with Freeholder Timberman seconding his motion. On roll call, the motion carried a vote of 7/0.

The Clerk of the Board read the following Freeholder Committee Assignments to Standing Committees:

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

FH Committee	New Name Proposed	Chairperson	FH 1	FH 2
Administration				
and Finance	Administrative	Lee Ware	Bruce Bobbitt	Beth Timberman
Facilities				
Management	Finance	Chuck Sullivan	Lee Ware	Beth Timberman
Public Services		Sue Bestwick	Jeff Hogan	Dave Lindenmuth
Health & Social				
Services		Jeff Hogan	Sue Bestwick	Lee Ware
Public Safety		David Lindenmuth	Bruce Bobbitt	Jeff Hogan
Planning and				
Transportation		Beth Timberman	Chuck Sullivan	Dave Lindenmuth
Public Works		Bruce Bobbitt	Chuck Sullivan	Sue Bestwick

The following Minority Report was read by Freeholder Bestwick:

Good Evening, Freeholders, members of the press, distinguished guests. To begin, I would like to extend my congratulations to Freeholder Timberman for her re-election to her second term and also, to Jeff Hogan. As I have told him, I hope that being a freeholder fulfills his expectations and is worth all of the months of anticipation.

Salem County is the most beautiful and diversified county in this part of the country. What a litany of precious commodities we can boast. Six rivers, more than 34,000 acres of unique meadow and marshland, tidal and freshwater wetlands, 40 lakes and ponds, bay beaches, dunes, expansive woodlands, a critical underground aquifer, numerous streams and important headwaters. Salem County covers 338 square miles- with nearly half of the land actively farmed. It also boasts a population of less than 65,000- the lowest population and the lowest density per square mile in New Jersey. All of these

contribute to a quality of life that we all hold dear and which we have become very protective. The citizens of Salem County have, time and time again, let it be known to their elected officials that preserving this time capsule which we have here, the way it looks, and our lifestyle is as important as anything else; it is what they love and want to retain for their families.

Salem County's rich history didn't begin with this freeholder board. It began long before any of us entered public service. I have lived in Salem County for over 20 years and amazingly enough it still looks just about the same as it did when I first crossed the PA state border. We still have the rich farmland, the historic sites, the rural character, and the natural resources. It is no wonder the residents are content with the Democrat leadership because they aren't seeing any real change over the last three years. But, could this also be the problem? You know the saying: "you can't and shouldn't judge a book by its cover."

I have always been a person who has a positive view and as a teacher, I am in the business of second chances. However, once students walk out of the protected environment of their school into the real world, the stakes become higher and there is very little *wiggle* room for mistakes.

County government is a 70 million dollar business that is funded with the hard earned money of our residents. After almost a decade as your Freeholder I think I have enough insight to tell you things here are not always as they seem. I am fearful that our little piece of paradise may soon begin to change. How do I know it? Am I just speaking gloom and doom because my political party is no longer in control? I am sure that the majority party will tell you that is the case and the newspaper as well. Several years ago, we were *scolded* in an editorial (*I am paraphrasing*) that we, the Republicans, needed to step aside, give the other party a chance to govern. Stop whining—yes, they will make mistakes, but the people have spoken. But did they speak for the right reasons? Remember Watergate? Thanks to the media, items were disclosed that the people didn't want to believe but needed to know. Somewhat painful for all—Yes! Vital to keep government honest-Absolutely!

Ironically, we are suffering the opposite; the media is not reporting information that you, the taxpayers, need to know...because it affects the future of this county.

You will hear a long presentation about how wonderful things are in Salem County. What a wonderful job everyone, even me, is doing for the people of Salem County. We all like to hear that. Sometimes we need it, but it accomplishes very little. Are these freeholders doing some good things for our county?—Yes—and are there good people working for this county, of course. Jeff Ridgeway is a great example, working diligently and effectively and now taking on additional responsibility in his position. We need and deserve more people like him. Freeholder Bobbitt tries to do what is right. He is a man who simply understands right from wrong. He often discusses his concerns with me, often asks for my opinion and often takes my advice. However, he is the only one of the majority and after three years, the mistakes and mistruths continue.

Let's look at facts: In the past four years, the budgets of Salem County Government have increased like no other budgets in the history of Salem County. Salem County government has greatly expanded its Administrative payrolls. More consultants have been placed on the payrolls because our county government replaced many with the expertise to handle the problems. Some local municipalities are working against the county in the areas of planning and growth because they have lost confidence in the direction county government is going. Several of the local towns are feeling neglected because so much time, energy, and money is being concentrated in one area. The rules and laws that we take oaths to uphold are broken regularly. Mandatory resolutions are passed 12 months late. Decisions about Salem County are being made by outside entities or in a vacuum. Decisions are made by a minority vote in a committee that doesn't have the authority to do so. The best qualified individuals for jobs are disregarded for political patronage and the worst, yet, county chairmen have sat in during the interview process for county positions. Sadly, problems like these are not limited to the central government of the county. You now have the independent authorities and commissions stripped of their independence and controlled by others. Authorities are adding unnecessary positions to provide political patronage jobs; they are depleting financial reserves that were built for your future and creating new additional debt. Members are receiving hidden benefits, trips, and meals with your hard earned money.

Yet the reports show, all is well in MUDVILLE!

I realize that much of what I have stated, you have never heard before. Why? Is it because our only source of information has *not* felt it important enough to investigate, to question? Maybe our news agency is doing the best they can with the resources they have—or at least that is what they say, but how unfortunate, how negligent, how irresponsible if they are actually part of the problem.

The media has a responsibility to understand government so that it knows what to look for when major decisions and changes are being made. The media is very powerful. It has a captive ear and is supposed to be the "objective" voice of the people. I cannot speak for all states, but I know that in New Jersey most people assume that their politicians are corrupt or at the very least corruptible. So they rely on the media to expose the problems, expose errors, and expose poor decisions. The media is there to keep us all honest.

Just his past week I was listening to an interview with the CEO of Motorola. He stated that the first thing he does every morning is reads the newspapers. He stated that it was one of the most important things he does because it gives him necessary information that he uses to manage. By reading the paper, he finds out the climate of the country, how people are feeling, and what his competition is doing. In short he relies on the paper to help him keep his company moving forward.

Questioning the majority must not be viewed as *being an* obstructionist, but instead as the way to ensure that *decisions* are moved ahead carefully, accurately, economically, and lawfully. If no one is watching or questioning--mistakes will *destroy* the foundation of our system. If this media leads the public to believe that everything is fine, then what hope does our county have to preserve our heritage?

THE TRUTH IS: ALL IS NOT FINE. THIS FREEHOLDER BOARD has to face some very serious issues this year-- but if no one is going to bring these issues to light, I can promise you, very little will be done to improve certain situations. Let me give you just a few of the problem areas that have not been fully reported or reported at all to the taxpayers:

Senior transportation: not only have we inconvenienced our seniors by the changes that have been made, but also we barely have moved forward to meet new federal standards that we must have in place if we expect to receive our federal funding.

Our engineering department is so poorly understaffed that the county has resorted to paying outside firms to do work that has always been done in house.

And finally, **our county nursing home** is in such turmoil that law enforcement is involved for the protection of everyone.

As a teacher, I know that challenging my students is the only way to ensure that they are developing the skills necessary to achieve success in the future. The media needs to challenge county government for the same reasons. Sometimes challenges will bring about controversy and place individuals in uncomfortable situations, but it is a small price to pay to ensure that this \$70 million dollar business that we call county government is being run efficiently, effectively, ethically, but most importantly lawfully.

Even without the support of the press, over the past few years my concerns have corrected so many errors that would have been very costly to our taxpayers. Now, I am not looking for the glory, however, just a, *your were right Freeholder Bestwick*, instead of "quit complaining" by our news leaders would have been appropriate if just to assure the citizens that the actions of the Board had been corrected to comply with the laws of this state.

When I first became a Freeholder, I had some great new ideas and perspectives, some of which had a positive impact, but I relied on veteran members, the minority members and the media to help develop the best plan possible. I knew that no matter how good of an idea I thought I had, I would have to prove its worth to my colleagues, to the minority, to my party, and to the **PRESS**.

The **Sunshine Law** is here to open government decisions, the **Open Public Records Act** is here to open documents, the **Ethics Law** is here to stop unethical decisions for political reasons; yet, in Salem County some believe there is no need to comply with any rules and most laws.

There is always a need for oversight, a minority party, the news media, and public input. The role that the media plays today of pretending that all is fine in Mudville is a dis-service to the citizens and becomes counterproductive.

Thomas Carlyle stated: The greatest of faults...is to be conscious of none. Too often we fall prey to complacency, to arrogance, and self-assuredness.

If this board continues to govern without fear of criticism, it won't be long until the Salem County we know and love will look very different from what we have come to call our garden part of the Garden State. I challenge you the media, you the citizens, and you our elected leaders to step-up, actively question, share information, and do what is best for our county.

SALEM COUNTY DESERVES IT! God Bless Salem County, God Bless the USA!

Thank-you

The following Majority Report and accompanying Power Point presentation was read by Deputy Freeholder Bobbitt:

Leading through Service

Good Evening! Last year I had the honor of serving as Freeholder Deputy Director and look forward to serving in this same capacity in 2007. As many of you know, I have often been referred to as the Man of the People. I can assure you that this Freeholder Board is not only of the People, but for the People. We are committed to leading through service. This has truly been demonstrated this past year as we have worked to provide tax relief and provide excellent service to our residents, while placing Salem County on the map as a great place to live, work, and play.

I believe that if you think something needs to be changed in this world then you have to work to make it happen. Accomplishing your goals takes time, but the result is worth the effort. Salem County is a great place and while we have made progress on many fronts—we as a Freeholder Board believe that more needs to be done to improve the quality of life within Salem County. We have made great advances, recognizing that a journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step. We know that more must be done to serve the citizens we were elected to help and protect.

[SLIDE- TAX RATE OVER PAST 10 YEARS- FROM BUDGET ADDRESS]

This past year, the Board of Chosen Freeholders made a tremendous stride in our fight against the burdening property taxes residents face in the State of New Jersey. When we lowered the tax rate by two cents we did this not at the expense of programs that assist our communities. Instead we used the County's surplus, eliminated waste and streamlined government. As we move forward in 2007 we plan on doing more to contribute to property tax relief. We are working to unveil a budget with an additional five cent tax rate reduction.

[SLIDE- FREEHOLDER COMMITTEE STRUCTURE]

In addition to lowering the tax rate, the Freeholders are redesigning our committee structure to include a separate Finance Committee, which will be charged with developing the budget proposal to the Board, as well as maintaining oversight of government spending. This new committee will help us in our continuing efforts to maintain fiscal integrity in County government. Along with the new committee structure, we are also consolidating County government by reducing the number of Department Heads from 28 to 10 with no lay offs. By streamlining County government, we expect to save over \$150,000 in salaries and benefits. This money will be used to further our tax relief efforts.

While lowering the tax rate and streamlining government will assist in alleviating the problem, it is not the entire solution. We are not interested in short-term solutions to this burdening problem; rather, we are working towards long-term sustainable property tax relief. In order to achieve this goal, we will continue to work with our State and Federal officials to secure additional grant dollars. This past year Salem County was the recipient of over \$12.6 million dollars. Additionally, the Freeholder Board will facilitate a dialogue with our municipalities to share government services, so that we can continue to provide quality service at a more affordable price to each of you. We have already started this process in regards to merging municipal courts and we will continue this dialogue concerning this matter and other areas that could be streamlined. We have already applied for a \$300,000 State grant to further these efforts.

The Freeholders are very committed to sustainable economic development because we believe that the future prosperity of our County is dependent upon the planning and work that we undertake today. In an effort to increase economic development activities we are transferring the County's Economic Development Department to the County Improvement Authority. This combination is not unique to Salem County as most counties have already adopted this successful model. This new grouping will turn the Improvement Authority into the economic engine of the County enabling us to be even more aggressive in our efforts to expand economic opportunities for every resident.

Salem County is growing and changing daily. This Board of Chosen Freeholders, in cooperation with state and local officials, are working to ensure that we move forward in the right direction and that progress never comes at the expense of our rich history and legacy of agricultural excellence and does not burden the tax payers of this County. By capitalizing on our strengths, using team work and innovation in confronting our challenges, Salem County is on the right track for a successful and bright future.

[PICTURE OF BATTIATO FARM CEREMONY]

Earlier this year, Salem County celebrated its 20,000th acre of preserved farmland at the Battiato Farm in Mannington Township. The success of our preservation program is a direct result of the cooperation between citizens, local and county officials, and our State representatives.

Many people come to Salem County because of our farmland and open space and most stay because of the same reason. Our farmland and open space is a cherished resource for the County of Salem and it is constantly being threatened by developers and the depletion of funding to sustain preservation efforts.

[PICTURE OF FARMLAND]

In order to assist the County with its Farmland and Open Space Preservation efforts, we contracted with Morris Land Conservancy to develop a County Farmland and Open Space Plan. This was a year long process, which was intentionally interactive with the community, both residents and leaders alike, to ensure that the plan was in line with your vision for the County. After many meetings and surveys, the Board of Freeholders was presented with the completed plan at the end of the December. This plan will be used to guide us to ensure that we are strategic in our efforts and will assist us in gaining additional grant funds to support these initiatives.

Our farmland preservation efforts are important to the success of our County because they provide an array of economic contributions that can be summed up quickly, but never understated. Farmland contributes a significant amount of the U.S. food supply, it is an economic safeguard against sprawl, helps to protect our environment, and finally serves as a symbol of the entire agricultural industry.

Salem County's Smart Growth Plan uses investments in preservation and innovation efforts to capitalize on the resources of the county. By targeting certain areas for economic growth and others for farmland preservation we are able to grow the county's ratable base, while at the same time maintaining the county's rural character.

[PICTURE OF DOWNTOWN]

Salem County is the least populated county in the State, relatively unscarred by "sprawl development." Regional and redevelopment planning have assured that development is channeled to appropriate areas with available infrastructure, which includes our town centers and the 295 corridor.

[PICTURE OF RIVERWALK PROJECT]

A prime example of the coordinated team effort to channel the development and harness the power of the corridor is the Riverwalk Project, which should be completed in the near future. The Riverwalk Project is located in Penns Grove and features 195,500 square feet of Retail, Office, Restaurant, and Entertainment Space. This project features a decorative promenade connecting to an 800-foot pier and offers a stunning waterfront experience and a view of the Delaware Memorial Bridge. Coupled with the incentive of a 3.5% sales tax, this project is poised to be a major component in Salem County development and tourism initiatives.

In addition to the 295 corridor, we are tapping into the power of the County's entire transportation system by encouraging development along Routes 49, 45, and 40. Our Economic Development tactic capitalizes on the corridor's proximity to major transportation routes, large population center, markets, and existing infrastructure. In order to take advantage of the corridor's benefits, we have instituted, with the help of our legislators and municipalities, financial incentives for business attraction, retention, and growth.

[PICTURE OF GATEWAY BUSINESS PARK]

We are already seeing the benefits of a coordinated focus on Smart Growth in the corridor with the Gateway Business Park Project moving forward. The Gateway Business Park project is a dream that is now becoming a reality. This project has been in the works since 1998. Now, in 2007 the J.E. Berkowitz firm is in the midst of building their glass manufacturing facilities here which will bring a new ratable to the County, while providing approximately 250 new jobs.

[PICTURE OF RAILROAD RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY]

While preserving our farmland, and capitalizing on our location, we are also improving our transportation infrastructure. Our 18 mile short line railroad, which runs from Swedesboro to the Salem Port, over the Oldmans Creek Trestle, provides raw materials freight delivery to various businesses in Salem County, including Anchor Glass, Mannington Mills, South Jersey Farmer's Exchange, G. E. Fabricators and others. The previous condition of the rail prevented the trains from traveling more than 5 miles per hour, taking the operator nearly half a shift to simply move the cars from Swedesboro to Salem in addition to the time it takes to load and unload cars. The improvements along the rail line are already speeding up this process and will continue to assist our businesses in delivering materials in a timely and cost-effective manner.

This railroad is very important to the economy of Salem County. The cost to our farmers for shipping agricultural products by way of highway transportation would increase dramatically. As a Freeholder Board, we recognize that this short line railroad provides an incentive to local businesses to stay in Salem County. However, the condition of the railroad has not made it feasible for local businesses to fully harness the cost saving benefits that the railroad offers.

Accordingly, the Freeholders, have worked tirelessly to get the funding to advance a railroad reconstruction program. With the help of our State and Federal representatives we have been able to secure over 7 million dollars from funding sources outside the county, which has allowed this project to move forward. We have recently completed several phases of this important project and will continue to work with our representatives to secure more funding to ensure that this project continues to move forward.

[PICTURE OF THE ALMSHOUSE]

While we move forward as a County, we are mindful of the necessity to preserve our past. Salem County is fortunate to have some of the State's finest historical treasures within its boundaries and we must be proactive in maintaining these landmarks for future generations as our history reminds us of who we are. In that spirit, the Freeholders are working with local and State officials to preserve the County's Almshouse and make it a functional office building. Additionally, the County received \$198,000 dollars in grant funding for the restoration of our Old Courthouse in downtown Salem.

[PICTURE OF THE MILITARY MEDAL CEREMONY]

As we work to preserve our past, the County has made tremendous strides in honoring our past. The County presented Military Service Medals to many of our distinguished veterans. Along with the help of our Third District Legislators, we were able to celebrate in November the new name for the new bridge on route 49 connecting the City of Salem with Pennsville Township as the "Veterans Memorial Bridge of Salem County." This important symbol will serve as a reminder of all those who pass over it of the sacrifices of the many men and women from Salem County who have served in the United States Armed Forces.

The Board of Chosen Freeholders has also made additional efforts to inform residents about their government by creating the Office of Public Information which has produced three newsletters distributed county-wide, while also providing a monthly electronic newsletter. This office is charged with making government more transparent, which in turn makes us more accountable.

This year has been one of great progress, but we also know that we have had our trials as well. There are good times and there are bad times. There are times when we are one community united and there are times when we are divided. As we look forward to this year, let each of us commit ourselves to working with each other beyond the things that may divide us whether it be; party, municipality, race, or class and pursue the goal of making Salem County the best it can be. Our excellent County government team of employees is committed to continued work toward this goal.

As we look to the future, we remain committed to an agenda of fiscal restraint and social responsibility. We will continue to work to lower taxes, while improving existing resources. We pledge to continue to work with all parties to continue our successful farmland and open space preservation plans, while at the same time making the program less burdensome to the tax payers. The push to expand economic resources through smart growth and planned investment will persist as we continue to work with our federal and state representatives to bring more funding to Salem County for important projects such as the railroad. And, most importantly, we renew our commitment to you, the taxpayer, that we will put your agenda before all else and to ensure that we are serving you to the best of our abilities.

[PICTURE OF SALEM COUNTY FAMILY]

Salem County is blessed to have the fabulous resources that it does. But our greatest treasure is not found in things, programs, buildings, plans, or monuments, but it is found in each other. It is the people of Salem County that makes this County great. We must continue to work with each other to ensure that as we move forward that we are always reaching out to help those less fortunate.

A great writer once wrote that "To accomplish great things, we must not only act, but also dream; not only plan but also believe." Let us continue to dream great dreams believing that nothing is impossible when we work together to achieve them so that this will be a better Salem County today with a brighter future for tomorrow. Thank you.

OTHER BUSINESS

Freeholder Jeffrey Hogan thanked his family and supporters in getting him elected to the Freeholder Board. He is looking forward to serving Salem County.

Earl R. Gage, Clerk of the Board/Administrator, presiding Protem, asked Reverend Dr. Edward Dorn to deliver the benediction.

Motion was made by Freeholder Bobbitt to adjourn the meeting, with Freeholder Sullivan seconding his motion. There being no questions on the motion, all Freeholders said "Aye" for a 7/0 vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:14 PM.